

On Monday, I visited the Glenbrook Academy of International Studies, which is dedicated to expanding educational curriculum regarding global languages and societies. The Academy is comprised of students from Glenbrook North and Glenbrook South High Schools.

Initiated after the Helsinki Accords of 1975, students learn a foreign language and spend several hours each day focusing on issues of culture, international conflict, peace and cooperation, the United Nations, human rights, gender rights, and race relations. Since the program's official creation in 1981, numerous students have gone on in the tradition of the Academy to study and work to better our nation's foreign affairs.

Most importantly, students are challenged to "think globally" and link the importance of foreign affairs to their local community and economy.

As the United States seeks to maintain its competitive edge in the world, we need to develop more programs like the Glenbrook Academy to expand the minds of our young people and future leaders.

I want to especially thank Glenbrook South High School Senior Will Hubbard for inviting me address the program.



Congressman Kirk and the Glenbrook Academy of International Studies students